

**After the Power goes out the Mohican Family center will be open as a shelter.**

**Please pass this information on to your families.**

Attached are some things you can do I the event of a power outage.

From the office of emergency management.

## Power Outage in Winter

### Food Safety:

- As with power outages in any season, keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible. A refrigerator will keep food cold for about 4 hours if the door is kept closed. A full freezer will hold its temperature for about 48 hours. Even with snow and ice, outside temperatures can vary, causing chilled food to enter the danger zone, warmer than 40-degrees Fahrenheit and cooler than 140-degrees Fahrenheit. However, winter conditions can be helpful one way. Refrigerators and freezers that lack power can still function as an old-fashioned iceboxes that use ice instead of electricity. Source: FoodSafety.gov

### Conserve heat.

- o Some gas-fueled heaters, such as vent-less gas fireplaces, require some ventilation. Otherwise, if you don't need extra ventilation, keep as much heat as possible inside your home.
- o Avoid unnecessarily opening doors or windows.
- o Close off unneeded rooms.
- o Stuff towels or rags in cracks under doors.
- o Close draperies or cover windows with blankets at night.
- o Go to safe shelter when extremely cold  
(source CDC)

### After a power outage

- o Be extra cautious if you go outside to inspect for damage after a storm. Downed or hanging electrical wires can be hidden by snowdrifts, trees or debris, and could be live. Never attempt to touch or move downed lines. Keep children and pets away from them. Always stay 25 feet away from downed power lines.
- o Check on neighbors, especially senior citizens and individuals with functional needs.
- o Do not touch anything power lines are touching, such as tree branches or fences. Always assume a downed line is a live line. Call your utility company to report any outage-related problem.
- o Never call 9-1-1 to ask about a power outage. (Source: Michigan.gov)

(All tips below from CDC)

### **Heat your home safely.**

- If you plan to use a wood stove, fireplace, or space heater, be extremely careful.
- Use fireplaces, wood stoves, or other combustion heaters only if they are properly vented to the outside and do not leak gas from the flue or exhaust into the indoor air space.
- Do not burn paper in a fireplace.
- Make sure you have proper ventilation if you must use a kerosene heater.
- Use only the type of fuel your heater is designed to use—don't substitute.

### **Light your home safely**

If there is a power failure:

- Use battery-powered flashlights or lanterns rather than candles, if possible. Candles can lead to house fires.
  - If you do use candles, never leave lit candles unattended.

### **Use generators and other appliances safely.**

- Generators should be located at least 20 feet from any window, door, or vent and in a space where rain and snow will not reach them.
- Protect yourself from carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning by installing a battery-operated CO detector.
- Never using generators, gas or charcoal grills, camp stoves, or similar devices inside your home, in basements, in garages, or near windows. The fumes are deadly.
- Plug in appliances to the generator using individual heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cords.
- Do not use the generator or appliances if they are wet.
- Do not store gasoline indoors where the fumes could ignite.

### **Make sure babies and older adults stay warm.**

#### **Babies**

Infants less than one year old should never sleep in a cold room because they lose body heat more easily than adults. Follow these tips to keep your baby safe and warm during the extreme cold:

- Remove any pillows or other soft bedding. These can increase the risk of smothering and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).
- Dress babies in warmer clothing such as footed pajamas, one-piece wearable blankets, or sleep sacks.